

Hats Off

Medical practice on the distaff side has come a long way from its former position of being tolerated if not just plain ignored by the male members of the profession. Where once the woman physician was a rarity, today we are accustomed to seeing more and more practitioners in skirts, many of them definitely in fields such as industrial medicine where doctors in trousers are usually exclusively in attendance. The gentler aspects of laboratory work and obstetrics can no longer lay sole claim to the services of our female confreres.

The ladies have advanced in another direction, too. They have entered wholeheartedly into the economic and political sides of medical practice and have proved their right to be heard and respected in these fields. Their counsel has been invaluable on many occasions.

All of which brings us to a salute to Dr. Leslie S. Kent of Eugene, Oregon, first woman physician to be honored by her fellows by election to the presidency of a state medical association. Doctor Kent has labored long in an active medical practice and in organization affairs. She took a leading part in medical dealings with the warborn EMIC program and has become well and favorably known in many medical organizations outside her own state. Her election to high office in Oregon bears out the confidence which her many friends have in her and the respect in which she is held.

Congratulations to Doctor Kent and to the Oregon State Medical Society which elected her president. Hats off to the ladies and, particularly, to our good friend Leslie Kent.

Woman Also Works

Periodically the California State Division of Industrial Welfare finds it necessary to call attention to the laws regarding the employment of women in industrial, general, business or professional offices. That time has come again and the state agency has come up with a gentle reminder that women and minors are, in the eyes of the law, a little different from men employees.

For instance, a woman employee may not be scheduled to work more than eight hours in any one day. In case of emergency she may work more than eight hours but the overtime must be paid for at one and one-half times the regular wage rate. She must be paid a minimum wage of 65 cents an hour (if you can find anyone at that rate) and must be given a regular rest period, say ten minutes, morning and afternoon. She must be allowed a meal period of not less than 30 minutes not later than five hours after she reports for work. Her starting and leaving time must be recorded, along with the number of hours worked and total wages received in each payroll period.

Some of these requirements will appear elementary to many physicians but in those rare instances where they are not lived up to, the employing doctor may run afoul of the law. To be safe, instead of sorry, write the Division of Industrial Welfare at 404 State Building, Los Angeles 4, or 865 Mission St., San Francisco 3, for a copy of Order No. 4R, which tells all about it.

